

09-22-00

EK 28738472105

9/21/00

A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No. AUS9-2000-0240-US1

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of Inventor(s):
David William BoerstlerFor: **Method and System for Clock/Data Recovery for Self-Clocked High Speed Interconnects**

Enclosed are also:

- ☒ 27 Pages of Specification including an Abstract
☒ 11 Pages of Claims
☒ 12 Sheet(s) of Drawings
☒ A Declaration and Power of Attorney
☒ Form PTO 1595 and assignment of the invention to IBM Corporation

CLAIMS AS FILED

FOR	Number Filed		Number Extra		Rate		Basic Fee (\$690)
Total Claims	50	-20 =	30	X	\$ 18	=	\$540.00
Independent Claims	3	-3 =	0	X	\$ 78	=	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims	0			X	\$260	=	\$0.00
Total Filing Fee							= \$1,230.00

- ☒ Please charge \$1,230.00 to IBM Corporation, Deposit Account No. 09-0447.
☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with the communication or credit any over payment to IBM Corporation, Deposit Account No. 09-0447. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37CFR § 1.16.
☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37CFR § 1.17.

Respectfully,

Casimer K. Salys
 Casimer K. Salys
 Reg. No. 28,900
 Intellectual Property Law Dept.
 IBM Corporation
 11400 Burnet Road 4054
 Austin, Texas 75758
 Telephone: (512) 823-0092

 JCS98 U.S. PRO
 09/666277
 09/21/00

**METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CLOCK/DATA RECOVERY FOR SELF-CLOCKED
HIGH SPEED INTERCONNECTS**

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5

1. Technical Field:

The present invention relates generally to an improved data processing system, and in particular to a method and system for managing data within a data processing system. More particularly, the present invention relates to the field of clock/data recovery for self-clocked high speed interconnects.

15 **2. Description of Related Art:**

Interconnect effects are critically important in the design and verification of integrated circuits. On-chip interconnects are typically modeled by linear resistive (R) and capacitive (C) elements. With the scaling of the Back-End-Of-the-Line (BEOL) interconnect processes, the effect of interconnect on circuit performance continues to increase. In case of global nets (i.e., nets connecting one macro to another macro), the interconnect delay may typically be much greater than the logic delay. Even among nets within a macro the interconnect delay may constitute a significant portion of the path delay (i.e., typically up to 25%).

High speed interconnections between processors or switch elements are one of the main bottlenecks to system performance today as system bandwidth requirements grow geometrically. Many factors contribute to this problem, for example, chip and packaging density, power dissipation, logic switching speeds, available low-noise analog circuit

technologies, and the like. As speeds increase the nonlinear loss mechanisms through the channel require more precise detection techniques involving sensitive analog circuits, such as phase-locked loops (PLLs), for recovery of the timing information and sampling of the data stream.

A PLL integrated in a mixed-signal environment containing other PLLs and many noise-producing digital circuits may have unpredictable degradation on performance. For example, a PLL integrated in a mixed-signal environment containing other PLLs may force fundamental or harmonic false-locking due to injection or other effects. In addition, bandwidth-preserving transmission such as non-return-to-zero (NRZ) with some form of run-length-limitation requires advanced clock recovery techniques due to low transition density and no component at the clock frequency.

With Manchester data transmission, a serial data stream contains both the clock and the data, with the position of the mid-bit transition representing the clock, and the direction of the transition representing the data. Manchester has bandwidth, error detection, and synchronization advantages over NRZ code. However, presently available Manchester clock and recovery systems use precise delay lines or one-shots which are difficult to integrate precisely using existing CMOS process technology.

Thus, it would be advantageous to have an improved method and system for clock/data recovery for self-clocked high speed interconnects.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a method and system for
5 clock/data recovery for self-clocked high speed
interconnects. A data signal is received and then
equalized. The equalized data signal then provides the
trigger to separate "ones" and "zeros" one-shots. The
equalized Manchester data signal is also integrated,
10 compared with a threshold value to determine the negative
and positive peaks of the data signal. Then after the
appropriate peak is determined, a mid-bit signal is sent as
input to a set-reset flip-flop which thereby outputs an
asynchronous recovered non-return to zero signal.

15 This asynchronous recovered non-return to zero signal then
provides an enable input to the "ones" one-shot and the
complementary asynchronous recovered non-return to zero
signal provides an enable input to the "zeros" one-shot.

The "ones" one-shot outputs a "ones" clock signal and
20 the "zeros" one-shot outputs a "zeros" clock signal. These
two signals are verified and a recovered clock out signal is
provided. The asynchronous recovered non-return to zero
signal is supplied to a data flip-flop along with the
recovered clock out signal and a constant and the result is
25 a synchronous recovered non-return to zero signal.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

5 The novel features believed characteristic of the invention are set forth in the appended claims. The invention itself, however, as well as a preferred mode of use, further objectives and advantages thereof, will best be understood by reference to the following detailed
10 description of an illustrative embodiment when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a block diagram illustrating an exemplary data processing system in which the present invention may be implemented;

15 **Figure 2** illustrates an exemplary link containing an encoder, a channel, and a decoder in which the present invention may be implemented;

Figure 3 illustrates an exemplary encoder in which the present invention may be implemented;

20 **Figure 4** illustrates an exemplary simplified channel model utilizing an encoder generating complementary Manchester data, which is presented to the channel along with the NRZ source data in which the present invention may be implemented;

25 **Figures 5A** and **5B** illustrate an exemplary block diagram for the clock data recovery (CDR) system in which the present invention may be implemented;

Figure 6 illustrates exemplary waveforms for the signals in the exemplary block diagram in **Figure 5** which
30 illustrates the clock data recovery (CDR) system in which the present invention may be implemented;

Figure 7 illustrates an exemplary equalizer utilizing

the combination of a RC differentiator with gain and a comparator in which the present invention may be implemented;

Figure 8 illustrates a comparison of power spectral density for non-return to zero Manchester transmission data to the transmission frequency of such data for which the present invention may be implemented;

Figure 9 illustrates an exemplary RC integrator which distinguishes the mid-bit transitions from the transitions at the bit boundaries in which the present invention may be implemented;

Figure 10 illustrates exemplary clock and synchronous NRZ data which may be generated using conditionally-triggered one-shots in which the present invention may be implemented; and

Figure 11 is a flowchart outlining an exemplary operation for performing the clock/data recovery for self-clocked high speed interconnect method according to the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Figure 1 is a block diagram illustrating an exemplary data processing system in which the present invention may be implemented. Data processing system **100** is an example of a client computer. Data processing system **100** employs a peripheral component interconnect (PCI) local bus architecture. Although the depicted example employs a PCI bus, other bus architectures such as Micro Channel and Industry Standard Architecture (ISA) may be used. Processor **102** and main memory **104** are connected to PCI local bus **106** through PCI bridge **108**. PCI bridge **108** also may include an integrated memory controller and cache memory for processor **102**. Additional connections to PCI local bus **106** may be made through direct component interconnection or through add-in boards. In the depicted example, local area network (LAN) adapter **110**, SCSI host bus adapter **112**, and expansion bus interface **114** are connected to PCI local bus **106** by direct component connection. In contrast, audio adapter **116**, graphics adapter **118**, and audio/video adapter **119** are connected to PCI local bus **106** by add-in boards inserted into expansion slots. Expansion bus interface **114** provides a connection for a keyboard and mouse adapter **120**, modem **122**, and additional memory **124**. SCSI host bus adapter **112** provides a connection for hard disk drive **126**, tape drive **128**, and CD-ROM drive **130**. Typical PCI local bus implementations will support three or four PCI expansion slots or add-in connectors.

An operating system runs on processor **102** and is used to coordinate and provide control of various components

within data processing system **100** in **Figure 1**. The operating system may be a commercially available operating system such as OS/2, which is available from International Business Machines Corporation. "OS/2" is a trademark of International Business Machines Corporation. Instructions for the operating system and applications or programs are located on storage devices, such as hard disk drive **126**, and may be loaded into main memory **104** for execution by processor **102**.

Those of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that the hardware in **Figure 1** may vary depending on the implementation. Other internal hardware or peripheral devices, such as flash ROM (or equivalent nonvolatile memory) or optical disk drives and the like, may be used in addition to or in place of the hardware depicted in **Figure 1**.

Also, the processes of the present invention may be applied to a multiprocessor data processing system. For example, data processing system **100**, if optionally configured as a network computer, may not include SCSI host bus adapter **112**, hard disk drive **126**, tape drive **128**, and CD-ROM **130**, as noted by dotted line **132** in **Figure 1** denoting optional inclusion. In that case, the computer, to be properly called a client computer, must include some type of network communication interface, such as LAN adapter **110**, modem **122**, or the like. As another example, data processing system **100** may be a stand-alone system configured to be bootable without relying on some type of network communication interface, whether or not data processing system **100** comprises some type of network communication interface. As a further example, data processing system **100**

may be a Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) device which is configured with ROM and/or flash ROM in order to provide non-volatile memory for storing operating system files and/or user-generated data.

5 The depicted example in **Figure 1** and above-described examples are not meant to imply architectural limitations.

10 The present invention provides a method and system for improved clock/data recovery for high-speed self-clocked interconnects. The self-clocked transmission system of the present invention has many advantages over the prior art, such as, for example, eliminating the requirement for advanced clock and data recovery techniques, eliminating the need for using phase-locked loops or exotic filters (e.g., surface-acoustic-wave filters), reduces mixed-signal
15 coupling concerns (e.g., injection lock), potential power savings, reduced complexities inherent in phase-locked loops, improved migrateability, reduction of physical space requirements, and the like.

20 A Manchester, also known as a biphasic or split-phase, type of encoding has been used in this example in which mid-bit transitions are guaranteed for every bit. A rising mid-bit transition signifies a logic "1" and a falling mid-bit transition signifies a logic "0" and appropriate transitions at the bit boundaries to ensure the correct
25 mid-bit transitions.

30 In a preferred embodiment of the present invention, when data is received via communications links to network computers using a communications unit, such as, for example, modem **122** in data processing system **100** in **Figure 1**, the present invention detects mid-bit transitions in the Manchester data which may not have an edge transition immediately preceding the bit. In such a case, for an edge

transition to be absent, a "1" must be immediately preceded by a "0" or a "0" must be immediately preceded by a "1." In either situation either transmitted sequence may not force an edge transition between the two bits in the Manchester data stream. Once such a mid-bit transition is detected, the decoding operation may be accomplished using a clock data recovery system.

The received data is equalized and may provide a series of further input signals for the clock data recovery (CDR) system of the present invention. The equalized data signal may also be further processed by, for example, integration, and this integrated signal compared to a positive and negative threshold value to determine if a mid-bit transition exists for the portion of the data signal being processed. If a positive or negative mid-bit is detected, this detection may provide input to a bistable circuit component and the resulting bistable component output coupled with the equalized data signal may provide input to a plurality of monostable circuit components which may, in turn, output a recovered clock signal. A monostable circuit component provides a pulse of known height and known width in response to a trigger signal. Because the width of the pulse is predictable, the pulse's trailing edge may be used for timing purposes.

Figure 2 illustrates an exemplary link containing an encoder, a channel, and a decoder in which the present invention may be implemented. Decoder **262** may be attached to PCI local bus **106** which is a part of data processing system **100** in **Figure 1**.

In this example, encoder **202** performs the process of converting data into code or an analog signal into a digital signal and may be any type of encoder, such as, for example,

a Manchester encoder. In addition, a random data Manchester encoder may not be restricted to a differential or complementary type encoder. In this example, encoder **202** operates at 5Gbaud, although, encoder **202** may operate at other baud rates. Channel **224** is a transmission path on a data bus, such as, for example bus **106** in **Figure 1**. Decoder **262** changes a digital signal into an analog signal or into another type of digital signal and may be any type of decoder, such as, for example, a Manchester decoder.

In this example, the output from random data Manchester encoder **202**, includes Manchester out positive (+) output terminal **204**, Manchester out negative (-) output terminal **206**, NRZ source positive (+) output terminal **208**, and NRZ source negative (-) output terminal **210**. The combination of Manchester out positive (+) signal **216** and Manchester out negative (-) signal **218**, comprise Manchester source signal **212**, which may be transmitted to channel **224**. In addition, the combination of NRZ source positive (+) signal **220** and NRZ source negative (-) signal **222** comprise a NRZ source signal **214**, which also may be transmitted to channel **224**.

Furthermore, in this example, channel **224** includes inputs "in" **226**, "in1" **228**, "in2" **230**, and "in3" **232**. Channel **224** also contains outputs "out" **234**, "out1" **236**, "out2" **238**, and "out3" **240**. Manchester source signal **212** is transmitted from encoder **202** to channel **224**. Manchester out positive (+) signal **216** and Manchester out negative (-) signal **218** are received by channel **224** at inputs "in" **226** and "in1" **228**, respectively. Furthermore, NRZ source signal **214** is transmitted from encoder **202** to channel **224**. NRZ source positive (+) signal **220** and NRZ source negative (-)

signal **222** are received by channel **224** at inputs "in2" **230** and "in3" **232**, respectively. Received Manchester data signal **242** is transmitted from channel **224** via output "out" **234** and output signals **244**, **248**, and **252** are transmitted from "out1" **236**, "out2" **238**, and "out3" **240** to terminators **246**, **250**, and **254**, respectively. Terminators **246**, **250**, and **254** may be used, for example, for unused outputs. These terminators may be used to suppress error messages in the simulation process.

Additionally, in this example, Manchester decoder **262** contains inputs Manchester data in positive (+) terminal **264**, Manchester data in negative (-) terminal **266**, and reference terminal **268**. Manchester data in positive (+) terminal **264** receives Manchester data signal **242** from channel **224**. Manchester data in negative (-) terminal **266** and reference signal **268** are connected via connections **258** and **260** to ground **256**. Manchester decoder **262** also contains outputs terminals NRZ data out **270**, recovered clock out **272**, asynchronous recovered NRZ **274**, and mid-bit indicator **276**. The outputs from decoder **262** provide the signals needed for proper coordination and processing of data.

The data signal processing using encoder **202**, channel **224**, and decoder **262** is a way of receiving a data signal and processing the signal to provide needed outputs, such as, for example, signals from NRZ data out **270**, recovered clock out **272**, asynchronous recovered NRZ **274**, mid-bit indicator **276**, and the like.

Figure 3 illustrates an exemplary encoder in which the present invention may be implemented. In this example, a 5 Gbit/second random NRZ data stream may be used as the source for encoder **300**, which may be used in encoder **202** in **Figure**

2. Encoder **300** may modify a bit clock and random NRZ (non-return to zero) data to change frequency. The encoder may generate complementary Manchester data at 5Gbaud, which may be presented to a channel, such as, for example, channel **224** in **Figure 2**. The channel may be modeled with a double-pole at 2 GHz to provide a simple attenuation characteristic. If the 5 Gbaud signal is generated, mid-bit transitions may be delayed by 0.5 baud with respect to the non-return to zero data signal and the mid-bit transitions may occur at even times.

In this example, "2X" bit clock **302** with a frequency of 10 GHz emits "2X" bit clock signal **304**. "2X" bit clock **302** may emit a clock signal which may be twice the input bit clock signal. "2X" bit clock signal **304** is transmitted to data (D) flip-flop "Current level 1" **306** and is received at clock (CLK) input **310**. "2X" bit clock signal **304** is also transmitted to D flip-flop "Half-Baud time" **368** and D flip-flop "Out" **358**. D flip-flop "Current Level 1" **306** outputs bit clock signal **314** with a frequency of 5 GHz from complementary output (Qbar) **312** and bit clock signal **314** is transmitted to D flip-flop "Current Level" **316** and also provides feedback to "D" input **308** at D flip-flop "Current Level 1" **306**. Bit clock signal **314** is received at "CLK" input **320** at D flip-flop "Current level" **316**. D flip-flop "Current level" **318** also receives "Return Current Level" signal **376** at data (D) input **318**. D flip-flop "Current level" **316** outputs "Current Level" signal **324** from output (Q) **322** which is then transmitted to data bus **330**.

Data bus **330** also receives next bit (NB) NRZ signal **326** generated by random (uniform) non-return to zero (NRZ) data generator **328**. In addition, data bus **330** receives HB

(half-baud) signal **350** from "Half Baud time" D flip-flop **368**. Next bit (NB) non-return to zero (NRZ) signal **326** provides NRZ source positive (+) signal **346** at Manchester encoder **202** in **Figure 2** and is also transmitted to logical "NOT" operator **342**. Data bus **330** combines "Current Level" signal **324**, next bit (NB) non-return to zero (NRZ) signal **326**, and "Half-Baud" signal **350** and outputs signal **332** to combinational logic module **334**. In turn, combinational logic **334** outputs signal **336** to memory **338**. Then memory **338** outputs signal **340** to Out/Half-Baud bus **352**. Out/Half-baud bus **352** splits signal **340** from Memory **338** into two output signals **354** and **356**, signal **354** transmitted to D flip-flop "Out" **358** and signal **356** transmitted to D flip-flop "Half-Baud time" **368**.

D flip-flop "Out" **358** receives signal **354** from Out/Half-Baud bus **352** at "D" input **360** and "2X" bit clock signal **304** at "CLK" input **362**. D flip-flop "Out" **358** outputs signal **382** from "Q" output **364** and signal **386** from "Qbar" output **366**. The signal from "Q" output **364** provides Manchester out positive (+) signal **382** to an encoder, such as, for example, Manchester encoder **202** in **Figure 2** and Manchester out positive (+) signal **382** is also transmitted to provide input to logical "AND" operator **378**. The signal from "Qbar" output **366** provides Manchester out negative (-) signal **386** to an encoder, such as, for example, Manchester encoder **202** in **Figure 2**.

D flip-flop "Half-time baud" **368** receives signal **356** from Out/Half-Baud bus **352** at "D" input **370** and also receives "2X" bit clock signal **304** at "CLK" input **372**. D flip-flop "Half-Baud time" **368** outputs Half-Baud signal **350**

to data bus **330** which is also transmitted to provide input to logical "AND" operator **378**. The output signal from logical "AND" operator **378** is transmitted to memory "2" **380**, which in turn, provides "Return Current Level" signal **376** to

5 "D" input **318** at D flip-flop "Current Level" **316**.

The data signal produced from Manchester encoder **300** is then sent to provide input, for example, input to a channel, such as, for example, channel **224** in **Figure 2**.

Figure 4 illustrates an exemplary simplified channel

10 model utilizing an encoder generating complementary Manchester data, which is presented to the channel along with the NRZ source data in which the present invention may be implemented. The channel model illustrated in **Figure 4**, may be, for example, channel **224** in **Figure 2**. Manchester

15 data is presented to the channel along with the NRZ source data in which the present invention may be implemented. In this example, the channel is modeled with a double-pole at 2GHz to provide a simple attenuation characteristic. Terminals **402**, **406**, **410**, and **414** receive data, for example,

20 Manchester source data **212** and NRZ source data **214** in **Figure 2**. Then each respective transfer function processes the data, for example, transfer functions **418**, **420**, **422**, and **424** which may be written as:

$$25 \quad \frac{1}{s^2 + 24s + 144}$$

Thereafter, the data is sent to output ports **404**, **408**, **412**, and **416** to provide output, such as, for example, outputs **242**, **244**, **248**, and **252** in **Figure 2**.

30 **Figures 5A** and **5B** illustrate an exemplary block diagram for the clock data recovery (CDR) system in which the

present invention may be implemented. The frequency spectrum for Manchester data is centered around the clock frequency but is significantly narrower than a NRZ spectrum or that for most run-length limited (RLL) codes (e.g., 8B/10B). Although the loss introduced by the channel increases with frequency, the range over which equalization is required for Manchester is significantly less than for the broader range NRZ and RLL codes.

In this example, Manchester data in positive (+) signal **502** and Manchester data in negative (-) signal **504** are transmitted to data node **508**. Reference data may be received at terminal **506** and may then be transmitted to terminator **514**. Terminator **514** may be similar to terminators **246**, **250**, and **254** in **Figure 2**. In this example, terminator **514** is not used but may be used for a single ended system. Manchester data in positive (+) signal **502** and Manchester data in negative (-) signal **504** are combined at data node **508** and the resulting output is received Manchester data signal **510**. Received Manchester data signal **510** is then transmitted to equalizer **512**. Equalizer **512** is used to reduce distortion and compensate for frequency dependent signal loss (attenuation) over long distances. Equalizer **512** processes the data and equalized Manchester data signal **524** is transmitted to RC integrator **516** and also to provide input to "Ones CLK" one-shot **556** and "Zeros CLK" one-shot **558**. "Ones CLK" one-shot **556** and "Zeros CLK" one-shot **558** produce an output pulse of a specified duration and height every time each respective one-shot is triggered.

Equalized Manchester data signal **524** is processed by resistive-capacitive (RC) integrator **516** and then integrated Manchester data signal **518** is transmitted to relational

"Greater Than" operator **526** and relational "Less Than" operator **528**. In addition to integrated Manchester data signal **518**, positive peak threshold **520** is transmitted to relational "Greater Than" operator **526**. Also, in addition to integrated Manchester data signal **518**, relational "Less Than" operator **528** receives negative peak threshold **522**.

Relational "Greater Than" operator **526** will analyze integrated Manchester data signal **518** from RC integrator **516** and output a data bit every time integrated Manchester data signal **518** reaches a predetermined value. For example, each time the integrated Manchester data signal **518** reaches a value above 80% of its expected peak value, a data bit is produced by relational "Greater Than" operator **526**.

Likewise, relational "Less Than" operator **528** will analyze integrated Manchester data signal **518** and output a data bit every time integrated Manchester data signal **518** reaches a predetermined value, for example, less than 20% of its expected maximum negative peak value.

The resulting data bit from relational "Greater Than" operator **526** is mid-bit zero **530**. The resulting data bit from relational "Less Than" operator **528** is mid-bit one **532**. Each mid-bit zero data bit **530** is then transmitted to set-reset (S-R) flip-flop **538** and also transmitted to logical "OR" operator **534**. Likewise, each mid-bit one data bit **532** is transmitted to S-R flip-flop **538** and also transmitted to logical "OR" operator **534**. S-R flip-flop **538** receives each mid-bit zero **530** data bit at reset (R) input **542** and each mid-bit one data bit at set (S) input **540**. S-R Flip-Flop **538** then outputs asynchronous recovered NRZ signal **548** from "Q" output **544** and complementary asynchronous

recovered NRZ signal **550** from "Qbar" output **546**. Logical "OR" operator **534** produces mid-bit signal **536** to mid-bit indicator **552**. Asynchronous recovered NRZ signal **548** is transmitted to asynchronous recovered NRZ terminal **554**.

- 5 Asynchronous recovered NRZ signal **548** is also transmitted to "Ones CLK" one-shot **556** and D flip-flop **586**. Complementary asynchronous recovered NRZ signal **550** is transmitted to "Zeros CLK" one-shot **558**.

- Asynchronous recovered NRZ signal **548** provides enable input **560** to "Ones CLK" one-shot **556**. Complementary asynchronous recovered NRZ signal **550** provides enable input **568** to "Zeros CLK" one-shot **558**. Equalized Manchester signal **524** provides trigger inputs **562** and **570** to "Ones CLK" one-shot **556** and "Zeros CLK" one-shot **558**, respectively.
- 15 Then "Ones CLK" one-shot **556** outputs "Ones CLK" signal **576** from positive edge one-shot **564**. "Zeros CLK" one-shot outputs "Zeros CLK" output **578** from negative edge one-shot **574**. Both "Ones CLK" signal **576** and "Zeros CLK" signal **578** are transmitted to logical "OR" operator **580**. Logical "OR" operator subsequently outputs "CLK" signal **582** and is transmitted to recovered clock out terminal **598** and is further transmitted to D flip-flop **586**.
- 20

- D flip-flop **586** receives asynchronous recovered NRZ signal **548** at "D" input **588**, "CLK" signal **582** at "CLK" input **590**, and constant **584** at "CLKbar" **592**. D flip-flop **586** then outputs synchronous recovered NRZ signal **597** and it is transmitted to NRZ data out terminal **599**.
- 25

- Figure 6** illustrates exemplary waveforms for the signals in the exemplary block diagram in **Figure 5** which illustrates the clock data recovery (CDR) system in which
- 30

the present invention may be implemented. The reference numbers in **Figure 6** refer to the respective data signals indicated in **Figure 5**. In this example, **Figure 6** shows waveform **600** which represents received Manchester data signal **510**. After received Manchester data signal **510** is equalized by equalizer **512**, the output, equalized Manchester data signal **524**, is represented by waveform **602**. Then equalized Manchester data signal **524** is integrated by integrator **516** and, the output, integrated Manchester data signal **518**, is represented by waveform **604**. After combining integrated Manchester data signal **518** with positive peak threshold **520** in relational operator **526**, the output, midbit zero signal **530**, is represented by waveform **608**. Likewise, after combining integrated Manchester data signal **518** with negative peak threshold **522** in relational operator **528**, the output, midbit one signal **532**, is represented by waveform **606**.

Then midbit zero signal **530** and midbit one signal **532** are combined in logical operator **534** and, the output, midbit indicator signal **536**, is represented by waveform **616**. Also, midbit zero signal **530** and midbit one signal **532** are input to S-R flip flop **538** and, the output, asynchronous recovered NRZ signal **548**, is represented by waveform **610**. "Ones CLK" signal output **576** and "Zeros CLK" signal output **578** are combined in logical operator **580** and, the output, "CLK" signal **582**, is represented by waveform **612**. Asynchronous recovered NRZ signal **548** and "CLK" signal **582** are input to D flip-flop **586** and, the output, synchronous recovered NRZ signal **597**, is represented by waveform **614**.

Figure 7 illustrates an exemplary equalizer utilizing

the combination of a RC differentiator with gain and a comparator in which the present invention may be implemented. The equalizer depicted in **Figure 7** may be, for example, equalizer **512** in **Figure 5A**.

5 In this example, a signal is received at "in" input **702** which may be, for example, received Manchester data signal **510** in **Figure 5A**. The data signal is then transmitted to RC differentiator **704**. RC differentiator **704** processes the signal and the processed signal is then transmitted to gain
10 element **710**. Gain element **710** amplifies the signal to a specified level, such as 10 in this example, and transmits the amplified signal to Sign element **712**. Sign element **712** may return a positive output signal value, for example, a "+1" for an input signal greater than or equal to zero and a
15 negative output signal value, for example, a "-1" for an input signal less than or equal to zero. After being processed by Sign element **712**, the signal is then transmitted to data node **714**. Data node **714** also receives constant input signal **716**. The signed amplified signal and
20 constant **716** are combined and the output is transmitted to Gain1 element **718** in which the signal may be decreased. The signal is then transmitted to terminal **720** to provide input. The input may be, for example, equalized Manchester data signal **524** or provide input to RC integrator **516** as in
25 **Figure 5A**.

Figure 8 illustrates a comparison of power spectral density for non-return to zero Manchester transmission data to the transmission frequency of such data for which the present invention may be implemented. The integrated
30 Manchester signal has its positive and negative peaks captured using conventional peak detectors and thresholds

are generated which are slightly less than and greater than these values, respectively. These offsets may be created as a proportion of the peak value using, for example, resistive dividers. These thresholds are used with the two
5 comparators to sense the mid-bit one transitions and mid-bit zero transitions as shown in **Figure 5A**. These mid-bit indications are asynchronous at this point since these comparators switch before the transition has actually occurred (i.e. at the peak value of the integrated signal).

10 An asynchronous NRZ signal, as shown in **Figure 6**, may be created using a S-R flip-flop, for example, the S-R flip-flop shown in **Figure 5A**. The clock and synchronous NRZ data signals, as shown in **Figure 6**, may be generated using conditionally triggered one-shots, for example, the
15 one-shots shown in **Figure 5B**. The duty cycle of these one-shots may not be crucial if only rising clock transitions are used for deserialization, eliminating the strong variation expected for the transport delays (e.g., inverter chains) due to the operation of the present
20 invention. Since transport delay has poor tolerance, only the edge which changes independently from the delay is used. The zero transition simply restores the state, readying the state for the next transition.

Figure 9 illustrates an exemplary RC integrator which
25 distinguishes the mid-bit transitions from the transitions at the bit boundaries in which the present invention may be implemented. The RC integrator as depicted in **Figure 9** may be, for example, RC integrator 516 in **Figure 5A**. Distinguishing the mid-bit transitions from the transitions
30 at the bit boundaries may be accomplished by this RC integrator, a positive and negative peak detector, and two high-speed comparators. Only the mid-bit transitions

between a 1 and 0 (or 0 and 1) may be sensed with this approach.

In this example, a signal is received at terminal **902** which may be an equalized signal such as, for example, equalized Manchester data signal **524** in **Figure 5A**. This signal is then transmitted and processed by transfer function **904**, which may be written as:

$$\frac{1/(RC)}{s + 1/(RC)}$$

10. The processed signal is then transmitted to terminal **906** in which the signal may provide input. The input may be, for example, to a relational operator, such as, for example, relational operators **526** and **528** in **Figure 5A**.

Figure 10 illustrates an exemplary clock and synchronous NRZ data which may be generated using conditionally-triggered one-shots in which the present invention may be implemented. The one-shot depicted in **Figure 10** may be, for example, "Ones CLK" one-shot **556** and "Zeros CLK" one-shot **558** shown in **Figure 5B**.

In this example, enable terminal **1002** provides input to S-R flip-flop **1012**. In addition, S-R flip-flop **1012** receives an input signal from the output of memory **1042**. S-R flip-flop **1012** provides output signals to logical "AND" operator **1014** and logical "AND" operator **1032**.

Trigger terminal **1018** provides input to sense positive edge "NOT" operator **1020**, logical "AND" operator **1024**, sense negative edge "NOT" operator **1026**, and transport delay **1028**. Sense positive edge "NOT" operator **1020** provides an input signal to transport delay **1022**, which in turn provides an input signal to logical "AND" operator **1024**. Logical "AND" operator **1024** then provides an input signal to logical "AND"

operator **1014**. Both sense negative edge "NOT" operator **1026** and transport delay **1028** provide input signals to logical "AND" operator **1030**. Logical "AND" operator **1030** then provides an input signal to logical "AND" operator **1032**.

- 5 Logical "AND" operator **1032** then provides an input signal to logical "OR" operator **1034** and also sends a signal to negative edge one-shot terminal **1044**.

- Logical "AND" operator **1014** takes both input signals from S-R flip-flop **1012** "Q" output **1008** and logical "AND" operator **1024** and outputs a signal to logical "OR" operator **1034** and provides an output to positive edge one-shot terminal **1016**. Logical "OR" operator **1034** then provides an input to sense negative edge "NOT" operator **1036** and transport delay **1040**. Both sense negative edge "NOT" operator **1036** and transport delay **1040** provide an input to logical "AND" operator **1038** which in turn provides an input to memory **1042**. Memory **1042** then provides the input to S-R flip-flop **1012** at "R" input **1006**.

- Figure 11** is a flowchart outlining an exemplary operation for performing the clock/data recovery for self-clocked high speed interconnect method according to the present invention. The method illustrated in **Figure 11** may be performed by a clock data recovery (CDR) system, such as, for example, clock data recovery system **500** in **Figures 5A** and **5B**.

- The operation begins with receiving Manchester data (step **1100**) and transmitting the Manchester data to an equalizer (step **1102**). The Manchester data is equalized (step **1104**) and the resulting equalized signal is transmitted to a RC integrator (step **1106**) and also provides

a "Trigger" input to a "Ones CLK" one-shot (step **1138**) and a "Trigger" input to a "Zeros CLK" one-shot (step **1140**). The equalized signal sent to the RC integrator (step **1106**) is integrated (step **1108**) and then transmitted to a relational operator to sense the positive peak of the signal (step **1110**) and an relational operator to sense the negative peak of the signal (step **1112**).

Then, a determination is made as to whether or not the positive peak of the signal is greater than a predetermined threshold (step **1114**). If it is determined that the peak is not greater than the predetermined positive peak threshold (step **1114:NO**), the operation terminates. Otherwise, if the positive peak is greater than the predetermined threshold (step **1114:YES**), a mid-bit zero is returned (step **1118**). Likewise, a determination is made as to whether or not the negative peak of the signal is less than a predetermined threshold (step **1116**). If it is determined that the negative peak is not less than the predetermined threshold (step **1116:NO**), the operation terminates. If it is determined that the negative peak is less than the predetermined threshold (step **1116:YES**), a mid-bit one is returned (step **1120**).

The resulting mid-bit zero or mid-bit one are then transmitted to provide further input for the operation. The mid-bit zero or the mid-bit one is transmitted to provide input to a S-R flip-flop (steps **1122** and **1124**) and a logical "OR" operator (step **1126**). For either the mid-bit zero or the mid-bit one transmitted to the logical "OR" operator (step **1126**), it is determined as to whether or not either of the transmitted mid-bits are a zero or a one (step **1128**). If it is determined that neither of the midbits is a zero or

a one (step **1128:NO**), the operation terminates. Otherwise, if it is determined that either of the midbits is a zero or a one (step **1128:YES**), a mid-bit indicator is output (step **1130**). The mid-bit zero is transmitted and also provides

5 "Reset" input to the S-R flip-flop (step **1122**). The mid-bit one is transmitted and also provides "Set" input to the S-R flip-flop (step **1124**). The S-R flip-flop then outputs an asynchronous recovered NRZ signal (step **1134**) and a complementary asynchronous recovered NRZ signal (step **1132**).

10 The asynchronous recovered signal provides "D" input to a D flip-flop (step **1136**). In addition, the asynchronous recovered NRZ signal is transmitted and provides an "Enable" input to a "Ones CLK" one-shot (step **1142**). The complementary asynchronous recovered NRZ signal is

15 transmitted and provides an "Enable" input to a "Zeros CLK" one-shot (step **1144**).

The "Ones CLK" one-shot then provides a positive edge "Ones CLK" signal (step **1146**) and the "Zeros CLK" one-shot provides a negative edge "Zeros CLK" signal (step **1148**).

20 Both the "Ones CLK" signal and the "Zeros CLK" signal are transmitted to a logical "OR" operator (step **1150**) and then it is determined as to whether or not either of the transmitted signals is a "Ones CLK" or a "Zeros CLK" signal (step **1152**). If it is determined that neither of the

25 signals is either a "Ones CLK" or a "Zeros CLK" (step **1152:NO**), the operation terminates. Otherwise, if it is determined that either of the signals is a "Ones CLK" or a "Zeros CLK" (step **1152:YES**), the output is a recovered clock out signal (step **1154**). The recovered clock out signal is

30 then transmitted and provides "CLK" input to a D flip-flop (step **1156**). The D flip-flop takes the "D" input (step

1136), the "CLK" input (step **1156**) and a predetermined constant "CLKbar" input (step **1158**) and outputs a synchronous recovered NRZ signal (step **1160**).

Thus, the present invention provides an improved method and system for clock/data recovery for self-clocked high speed interconnects. The present invention will eliminate the requirement for advanced clock and data recovery techniques using phase locked loops (PLLs) or exotic surface-acoustic-wave (SAW) filters. The present invention receives data for mid-bit transitions in a data signal which may not have an edge transition immediately preceding the bit. The received data is then equalized and may provide a series of further input signals for the clock data recovery (CDR) system of the present invention. Thus, the present invention improves on prior clock data recovery systems using precise delay-lines or one-shots which are difficult to integrate precisely using existing CMOS process technology speeds much lower than those supported by existing technology.

It is important to note that while the present invention has been described in the context of a fully functioning data processing system, those of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that the processes of the present invention are capable of being distributed in the form of a computer readable medium of instructions and a variety of forms and that the present invention applies equally regardless of the particular type of signal bearing media actually used to carry out the distribution. Examples of computer readable media include recordable-type media such as a floppy disc, a hard disk drive, a RAM, and CD-ROMs and transmission-type media such as digital and analog communication links.

The description of the present invention has been presented for purposes of illustration and description, but is not intended to be exhaustive or limited to the invention in the form disclosed. Many modifications and variations
5 will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art.

This embodiment was chosen and described in order to best explain the principles of the invention, the practical application, and to enable others of ordinary skill in the art to understand the invention for various embodiments with
10 various modifications as are suited to the particular use contemplated.

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A signal recovery method for a self-clocked
5 transmission system, comprising the steps of:
 inputting a received data signal to both a first
monostable circuit component and a second monostable circuit
component;
 generating a first output signal from the first
10 monostable circuit component and a second output signal from
the second monostable circuit component;
 comparing the first output signal and the second output
signal to each other using a first logical operator; and
 outputting a compared output signal based on the
15 comparison.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the signal recovery
consists of at least one of a clock signal and a data
signal.
20
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the received data signal
is at least one of a processed equalized data signal and a
processed unequalized data signal.
- 25 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the first logical
operator is an OR-gate logical operator.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the compared output
signal is a recovered clock output signal.
30
6. The method of claim 5, wherein the recovered clock
output signal is at least one of a positive edge clock

signal and a negative edge clock signal.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first monostable circuit component and the second monostable
5 circuit component are one-shot circuit components.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the first generated output signal is at least one of a ones clock output signal and a zeros clock output signal.

10

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the second generated output signal is at least one of a ones clock output signal and a zeros clock output signal.

15 10. The method of claim 3, wherein equalizing the inputted data signal includes;

differentiating the inputted data signal;
amplifying the differentiated data signal;
applying a sign element to the amplified data signal;

20 and

decreasing the signed amplified data signal.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising:
combining a constant value with the signed amplified
25 data signal.

30

12. The method of claim 10, wherein differentiating the received data signal includes a resistive-capacitive differentiator.

13. The method of claim 3, wherein processing the data signal comprises:

integrating the equalized data signal;
generating a third output signal, wherein the
integrated equalized data signal is compared to a peak
threshold within a relational operator;

5 inputting the third generated output signal to a first
flip-flop circuit device; and

 outputting a fourth output signal from the first
flip-flop circuit component.

10 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the third generated
output signal is at least one of a mid-bit zero output
signal and a mid-bit one output signal.

15 15. The method of claim 13, wherein the equalized data
signal uses a resistive-capacitive integrator.

20 16. The method of claim 13, wherein comparing the
integrated equalized data signal within the relational
operator is at least one of a greater than relational
operator and a less than relational operator.

25 17. The method of claim 13, wherein the peak threshold is
at least one of a positive peak threshold and a negative
peak threshold.

18. The method of claim 13, wherein the first flip-flop
circuit component is a set-reset flip-flop circuit
component.

30 19. The method of claim 13, wherein inputting the third
generated output signal to the first flip-flop circuit
component is inputted to at least one of a set input

terminal and a reset input terminal.

20. The method of claim 13, wherein the fourth generated
output signal is at least one of an asynchronous recovered
5 non-return to zero output signal and a complementary
recovered non-return to zero output signal.

21. The method of claim 13, wherein processing the inputted
equalized data signal further includes:

10 inputting the third generated output signal to a second
logical operator; and

outputting a fifth output signal from the second
logical operator, wherein the fifth output signal is a
mid-bit output signal.

15

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the second logical
operator is an OR-gate logical operator.

23. The method of claim 1, wherein inputting the data
20 signal to both a first monostable circuit component and a
second monostable circuit component further includes:

inputting a processed equalized data signal to the
first monostable circuit component;

25 inputting an asynchronous recovered non-return to zero
output signal to the first monostable circuit component; and

inputting a processed equalized data signal to the
second monostable circuit component; and

30 inputting an complementary asynchronous recovered
non-return to zero output signal to the second monostable
circuit component.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein inputting a processed

equalized data signal to the first monostable circuit component is inputted at a trigger input terminal.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein inputting the
5 asynchronous recovered non-return to zero output signal to the first monostable circuit component is inputted to an enable input terminal.

26. The method of claim 23, wherein inputting a processed
10 equalized data signal to the second monostable circuit component is inputted to a trigger input terminal.

27. The method of claim 23, wherein inputting the
15 complementary asynchronous recovered non-return to zero signal to the second monostable circuit component is inputted to an enable input terminal.

28. The method of claim 1, wherein the compared output
20 signal is a clock output signal.

29. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
inputting the compared output signal at a second
flip-flop circuit component;
inputting an asynchronous recovered non-return to zero
25 output signal at the second flip-flop circuit component;
inputting a constant signal at the second flip-flop circuit component; and

outputting a synchronous recovered non return to zero
output signal from the second flip-flop circuit component
30 based on at least one of the compared output signal, the asynchronous recovered non-return to zero output signal, and the constant signal inputs.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein the second flip-flop circuit component is a data flip-flop circuit component.

5 31. The method of claim 29, wherein inputting the compared output signal at the second flip-flop circuit component is inputted at a clock input terminal.

10 32. The method of claim 29, wherein inputting the asynchronous recovered non-return to zero output signal at the second flip-flop circuit component is inputted at a data input terminal.

15 33. The method of claim 29, wherein inputting the constant signal at the second flip-flop circuit component is inputted at a complementary clock input terminal.

20 34. The method of claim 29, wherein the output signal is outputted from the second flip-flop circuit component from at least one of an output terminal and a complementary output terminal.

35. A signal recovery system for a self-clocked transmission system, comprising:

25 an equalizer, wherein the equalizer has at least one output port;

30 a first monostable circuit component having at least two input ports and two output ports, wherein the output port of the equalizer is connected to a first input port of the first monostable circuit component;

a second monostable circuit component having at least two input ports and two output ports, wherein the output of

the equalizer is connected to a first input port of the second monostable circuit component; and

a first logical operator having at least two input ports and one output port, wherein a first output port of the first monostable circuit component is connected to a first input port of the first logical operator and a first output port of the second monostable circuit component is connected to the second input port of the first logical operator.

36. The system of claim 35, further comprising:

a data flip-flop circuit component having a data input port, a clock input port and a complementary clock input port and having an output port and a complementary output port, wherein the output port of the first logical operator is connected to the clock input port of the data flip-flop circuit component; and

a constant signal source, wherein the constant signal source is connected to the complementary clock input port of the data flip-flop circuit component.

37. The system of claim 35, wherein the first logical operator is an OR-gate.

38. The system of claim 35, wherein both the first monostable circuit component and the second monostable circuit component are both one-shot circuit components having at least two input ports and two output ports, and wherein the first input port on both the one-shot circuit components is an enable input port and the second input port is a trigger input port and the first output port on both one-shot circuit components is a positive edge output port

and the second output port is a negative edge output port.

39. The system of claim 35, further comprising:

an integrator having at least one input port and one
5 output port, wherein the output port of the equalizer is
connected to the input port of the integrator;

a first relational operator having at least two input
ports and one output port, wherein the output of the
integrator is connected to a first input port of the first
10 relational operator and a threshold constant signal source
is connected to a second input port of the first relational
operator; and

a second relational operator having at least two input
ports and one output port, wherein the output of the
15 integrator is connected to a first input port of the second
relational operator and a threshold constant signal source
is connected to a second input port of the second relational
operator.

20 40. The system of claim 39, wherein the equalized data
signal uses a resistive-capacitive integrator.

41. The system of claim 39, wherein the first relational
operator is a greater than relational operator.

25 42. The system of claim 39, wherein the second relational
operator is a less than relational operator.

43. The system of claim 39, wherein the threshold constant
30 signal source is at least one of a positive peak threshold
source and a negative peak threshold source.

44. The system of claim 39, further comprising:

a second logical operator having at least two input ports, wherein the output of the first relational operator is connected to a first input port of the second logical operator and the output of the second relational operator is connected to a second input port of the second logical operator.

45. The system of claim 44, wherein the second logical operator is an OR-gate.

46. The system of claim 39, further comprising:

a set-reset flip-flop circuit component, wherein the set-reset flip-flop circuit component has a set input port and a reset input port and has an output port and a complementary output port, wherein the output of the first relational operator is connected to the reset input port of the set-reset flip-flop circuit component and the output of the second relational operator is connected to the set input port of the set-reset flip-flop circuit component, the output port of the set-reset flip-flop circuit component is connected to the enable input port of the first monostable circuit component and the complementary output port of the set-reset flip-flop circuit component is connected to the enable input port of the second monostable circuit component, and wherein the output port is further connected to the data input of the data flip-flop circuit component.

47. A signal recovery circuit for a self-clocked transmission system, comprising:

an equalizing circuit having a signal input for receiving a data signal and a signal output for outputting

an equalized data signal;

5 a first monostable clock edge sensing circuit having a trigger signal input connected to the output of the equalizing circuit, an enable input, a positive edge output, and a negative edge output;

a second monostable clock edge sensing circuit having a trigger input connected to the output of the equalizing circuit, an enable input, a positive edge output, and a negative edge output; and

10 a first logical operator having one input connected to the positive edge output of the first monostable positive clock edge sensing circuit and a second output connected to the second monostable negative clock edge sensing circuit and a signal output for outputting a recovered clock out
15 signal.

48. The circuit in claim 47, further comprising:

20 an integrating circuit having a signal input connected to the equalized data signal and a signal output for outputting an equalized integrated data signal;

a relational circuit having a first relational operator element connected at a first input to the output of the integrating circuit and a second input connected to a first peak threshold element and a second relational operator
25 element having a first input connected to the output of the integrating circuit and a second input connected to a second peak threshold element; and

30 a first flip-flop circuit having a set input connected to an output of the second relational operator element and a reset input connected to an output of the first relational operator element, an output connected to the enable input of the first monostable clock edge sensing circuit, and a

complementary output connected to the enable input of the second monostable clock edge sensing circuit.

49. The circuit in claim 47, further comprising:

- 5 a second logical element connected at one input to the output of the first relational operator element output and a second input connected to the output of the second relational operator element.

10 50. The circuit in claim 47, further comprising:

- a second flip-flop circuit having a data input connected to the output of the first logical circuit element, having a clock input connected to the output of the first flip-flop circuit, and a complementary clock input
15 connected to a constant signal.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CLOCK/DATA RECOVERY FOR
SELF-CLOCKED HIGH SPEED INTERCONNECT**

A method and system is provided for clock/data recovery for self-clocked high speed interconnects. A data signal is received and then equalized. The equalized data signal then provides the trigger to separate "ones" and "zeros" one-shots. The equalized Manchester data signal is also integrated, compared with a threshold value to determine the negative and positive peaks of the data signal. Then after the appropriate peak is determined, a mid-bit signal is sent as input to a set-reset flip-flop which thereby outputs an asynchronous recovered non-return to zero signal. This asynchronous recovered non-return to zero signal then provides an enable input to the "ones" one-shot and the complementary asynchronous recovered non-return to zero signal provides an enable input to the "zeros" one-shot. The "ones" one-shot outputs a "ones" clock signal and the "zeros" one-shot outputs a "zeros" clock signal. These two signals are verified and a recovered clock out signal is provided. The asynchronous recovered non-return to zero signal is supplied to a data flip-flop along with the recovered clock out signal and a constant and the result is a synchronous recovered non-return to zero signal.

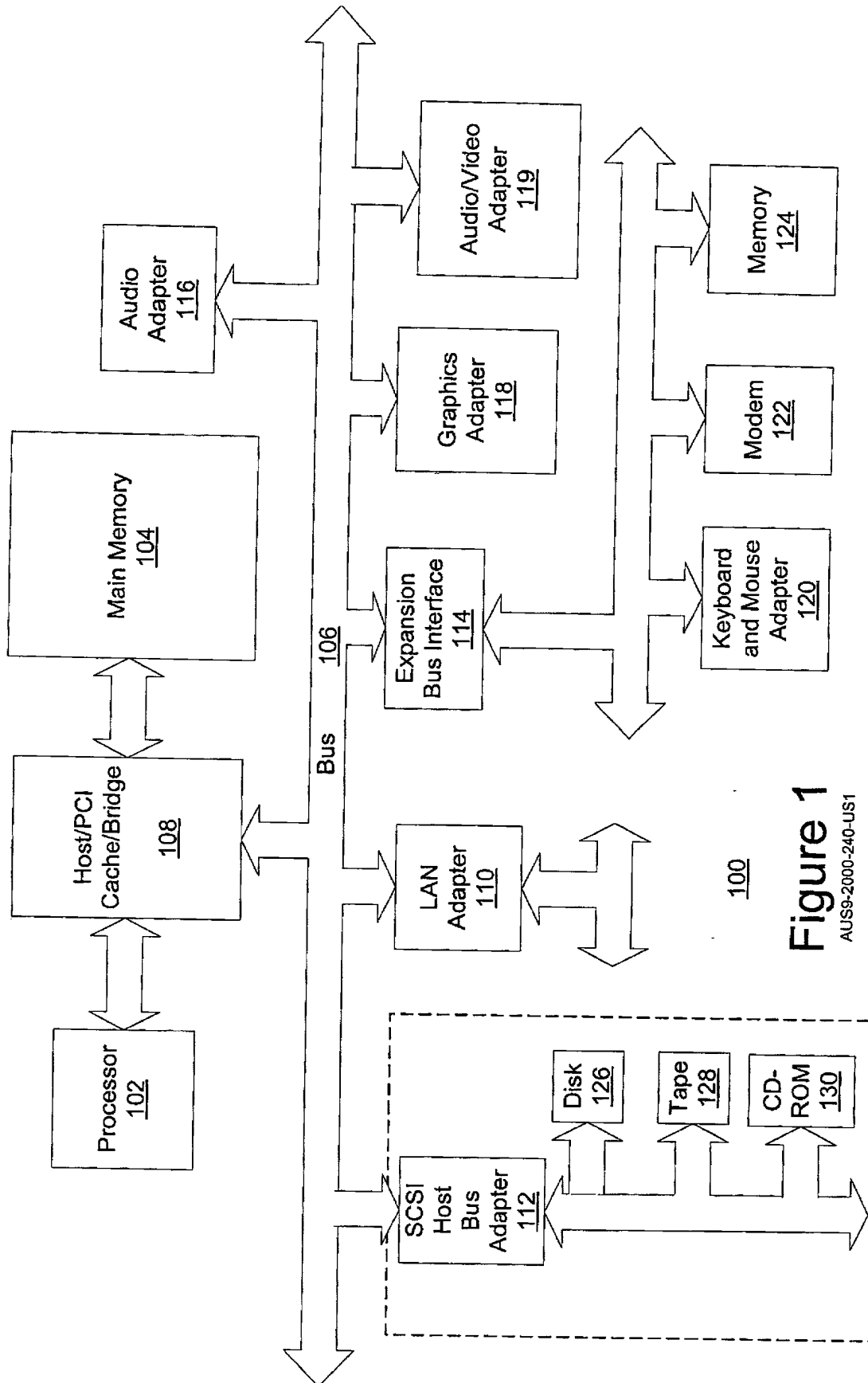


Figure 1
AUS9-2000-240-US1

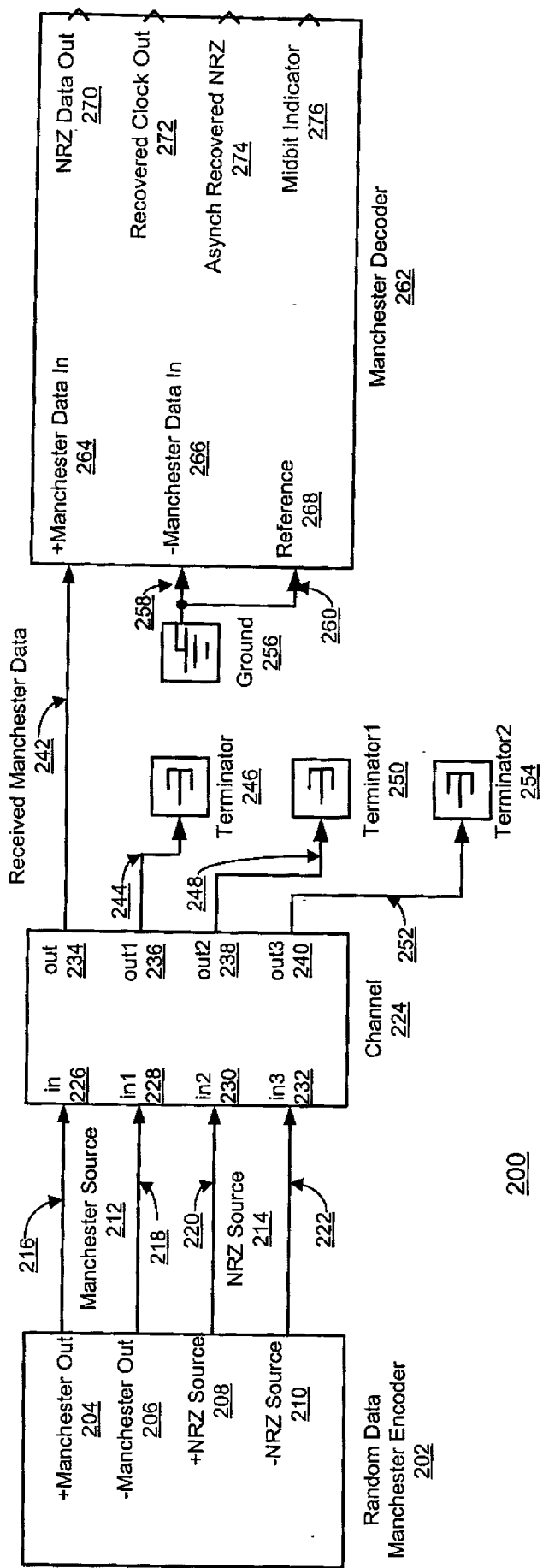


Figure 2

AUS9-2000-0240-US1

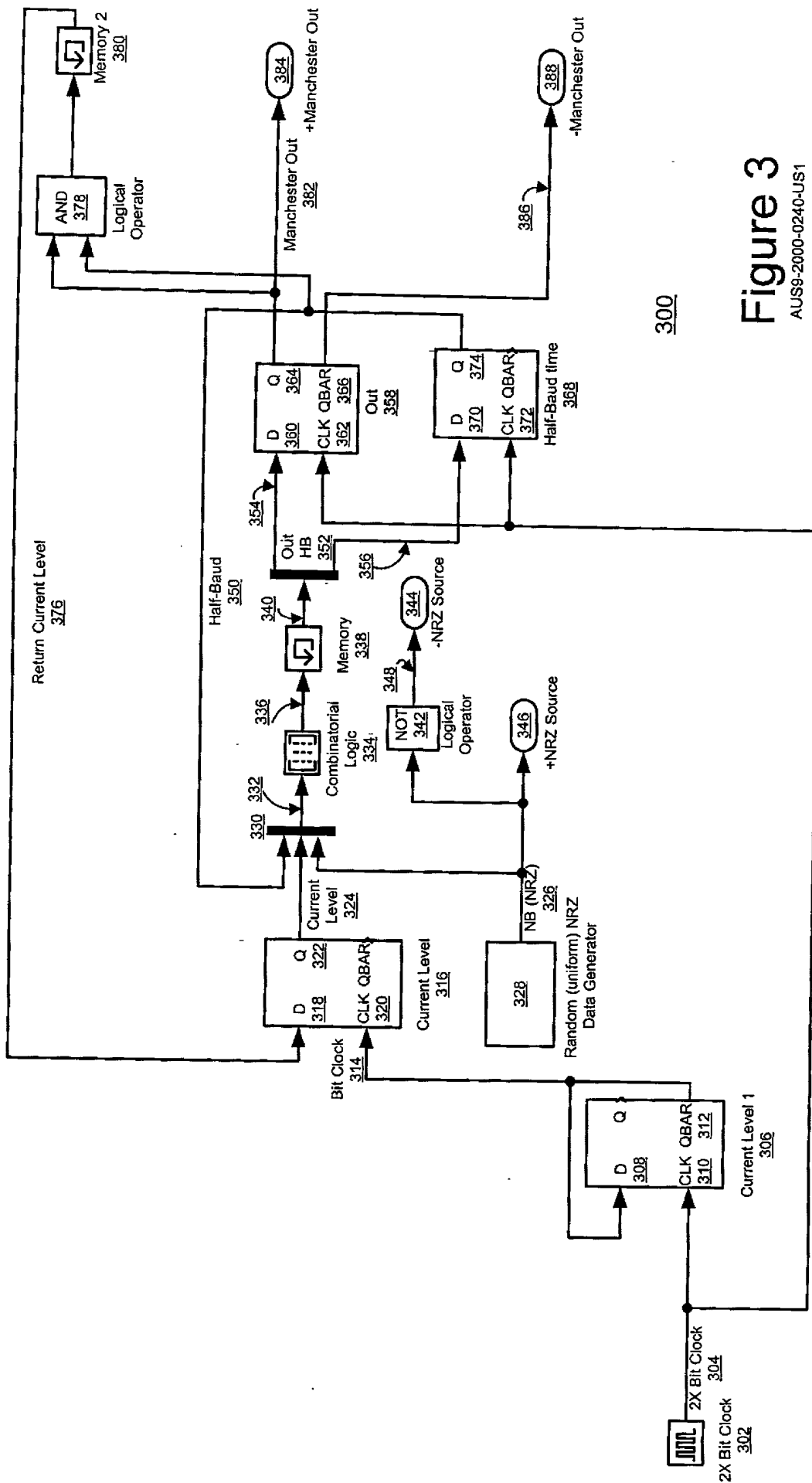


Figure 3

AUS9-2000-0240-US1

400

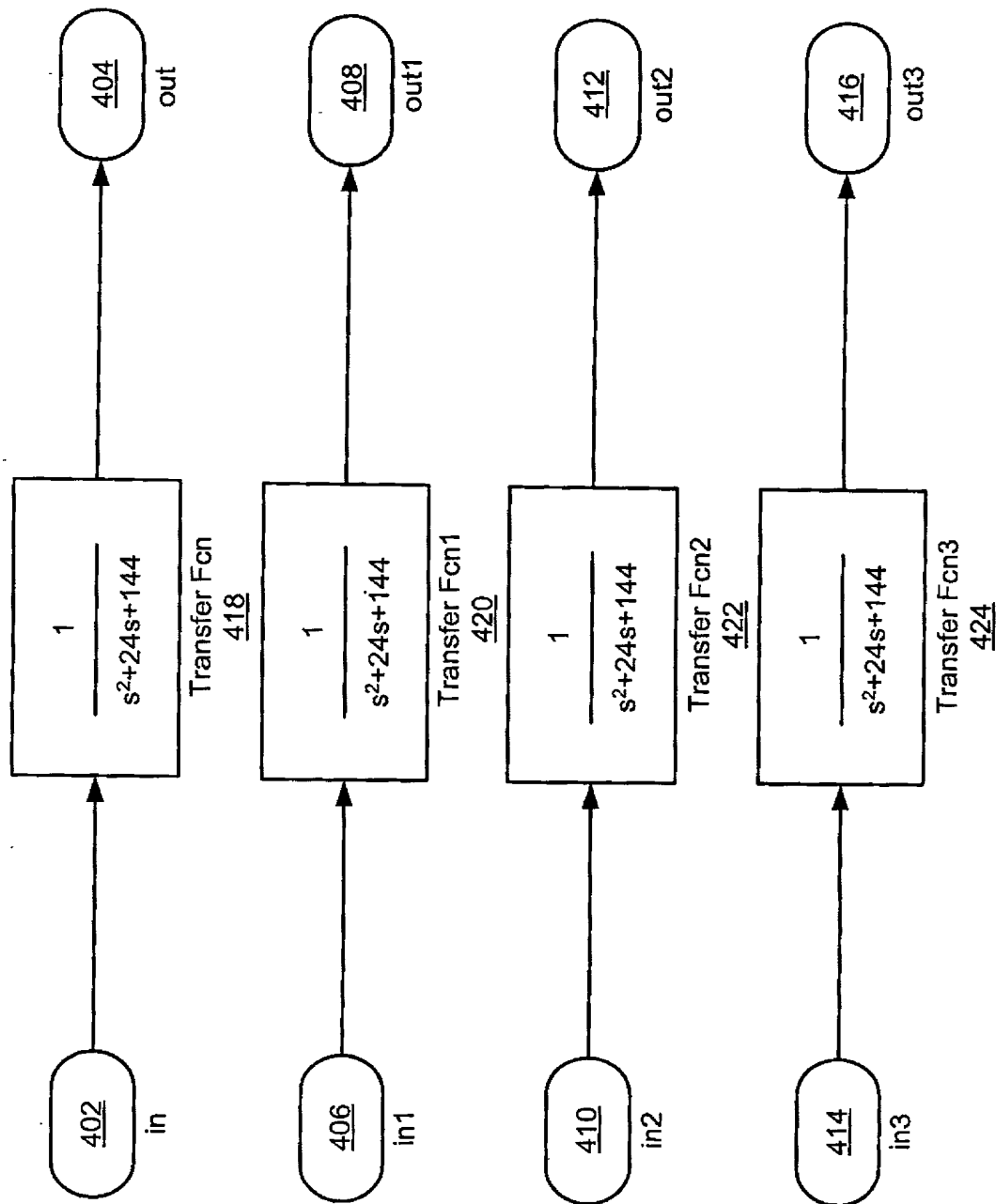


Figure 4

AUS9-2000-0240-US1

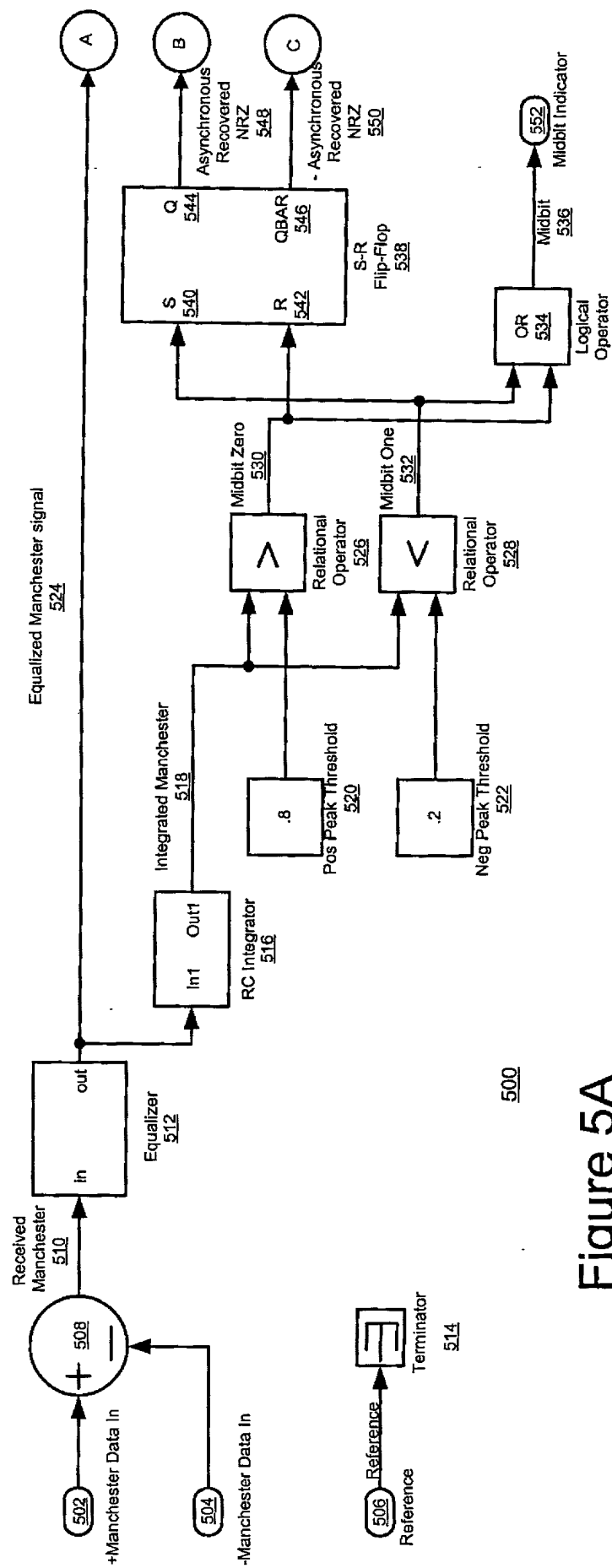


Figure 5A

AUS9-2000-0240-US1

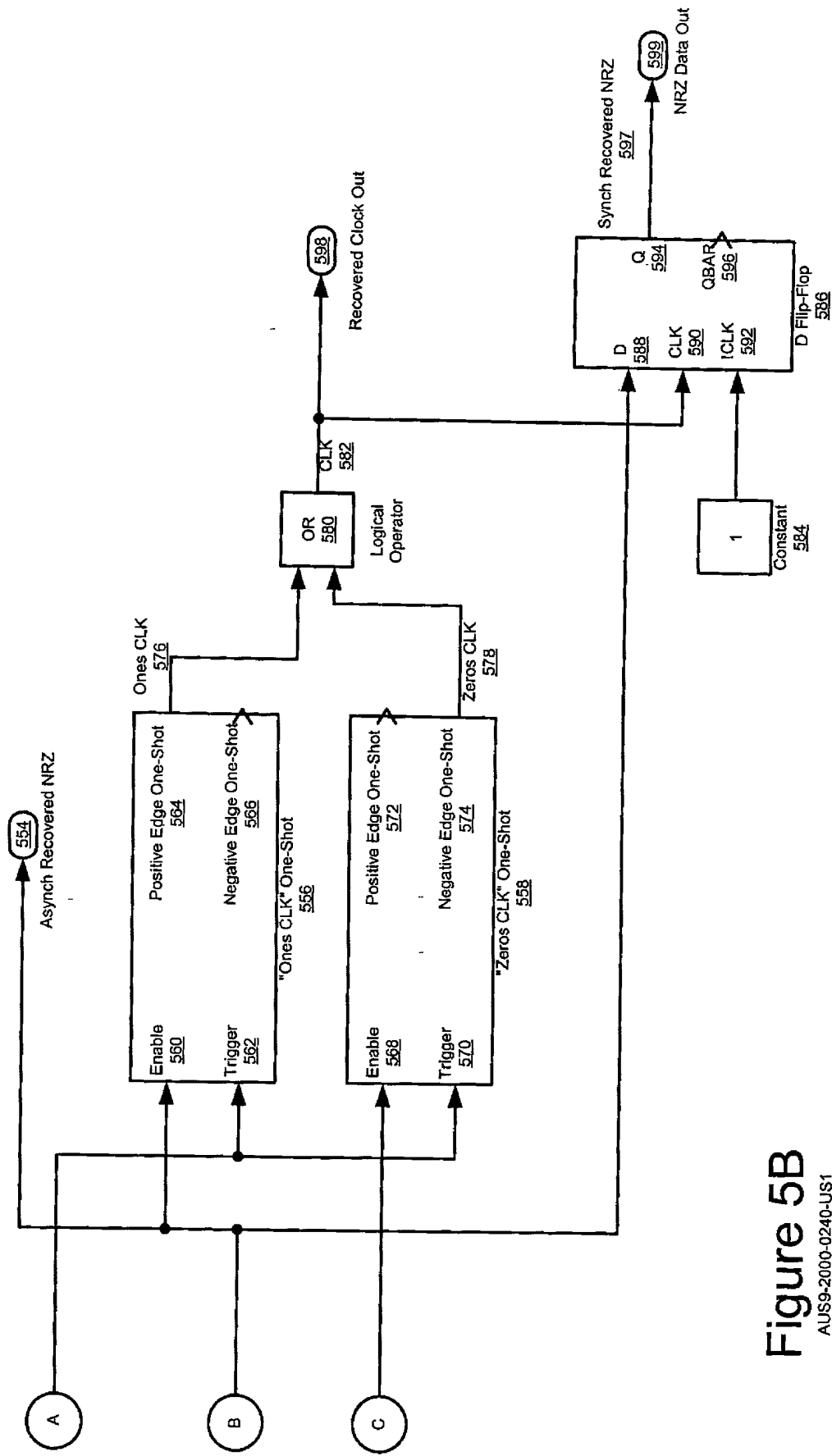


Figure 5B
AUS9-2000-0240-US1

AUS9-2000-0240-US1

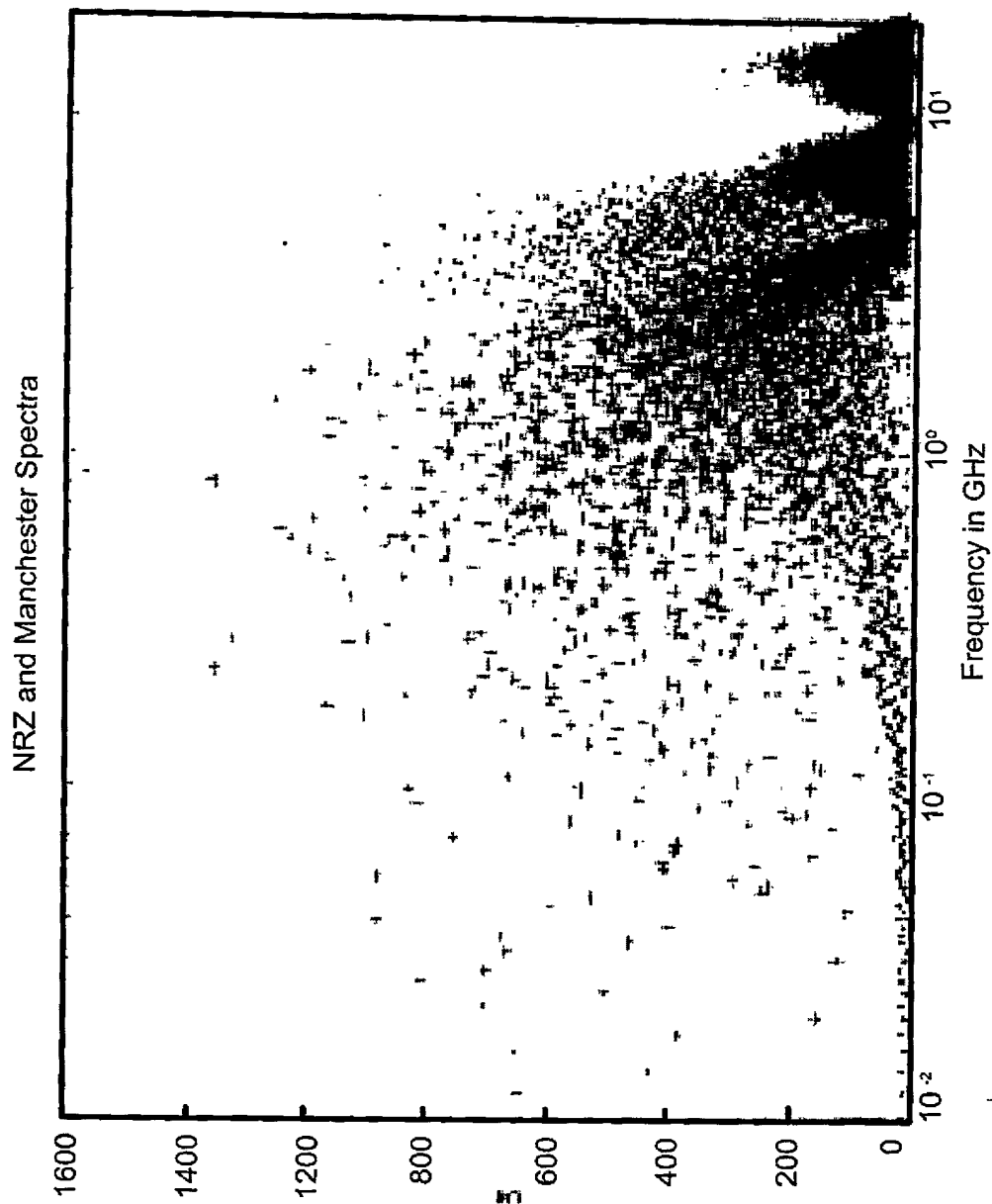
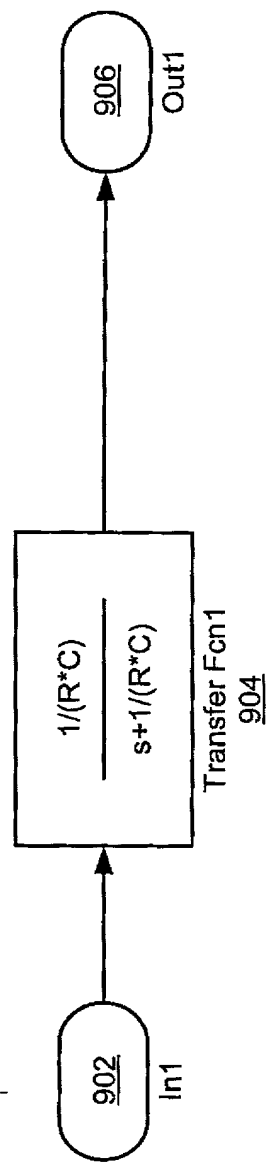


Figure 8

AUS9-2000-0240-US1



900

Figure 9
AUS9-2000-0240-US1

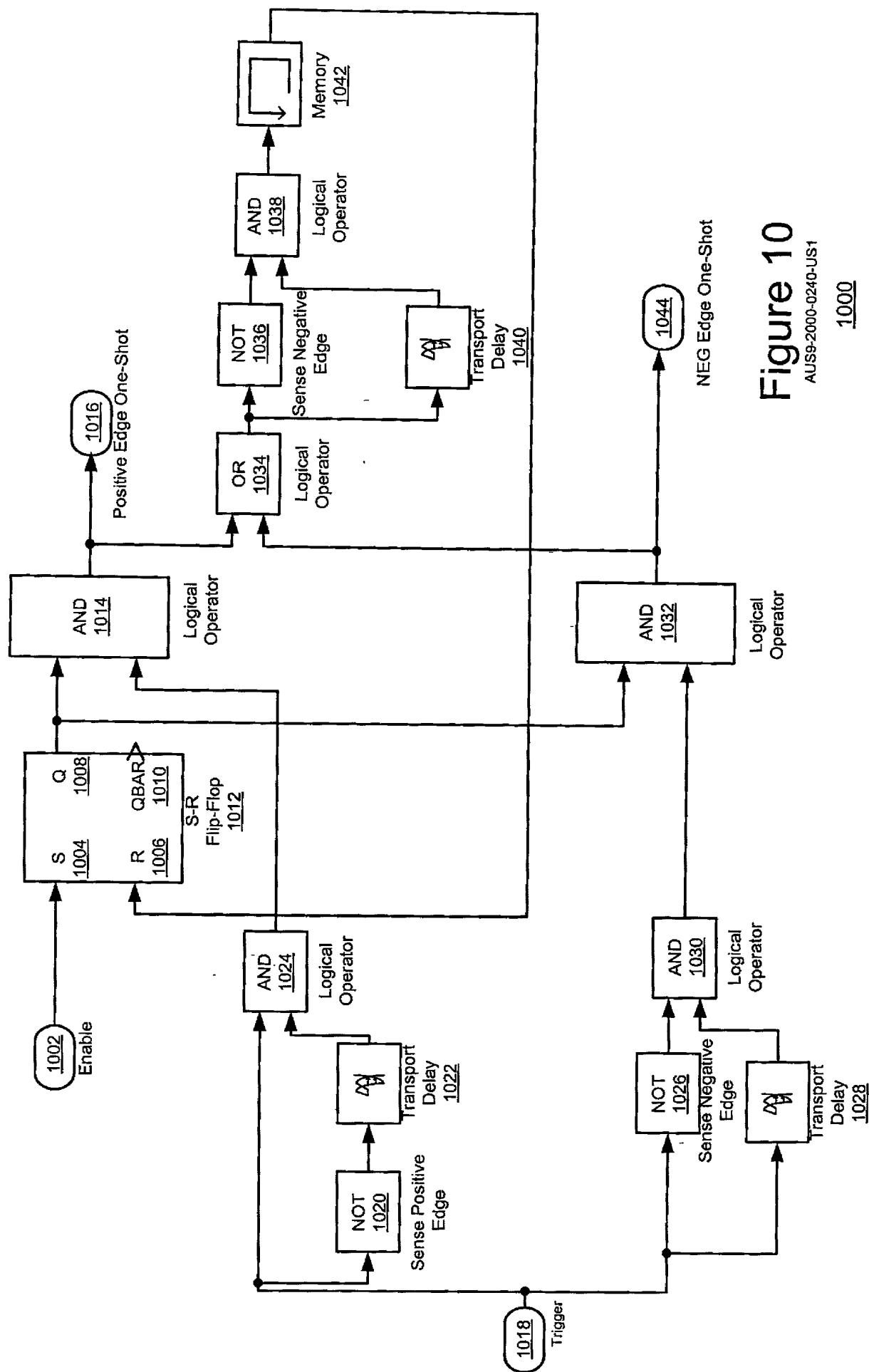
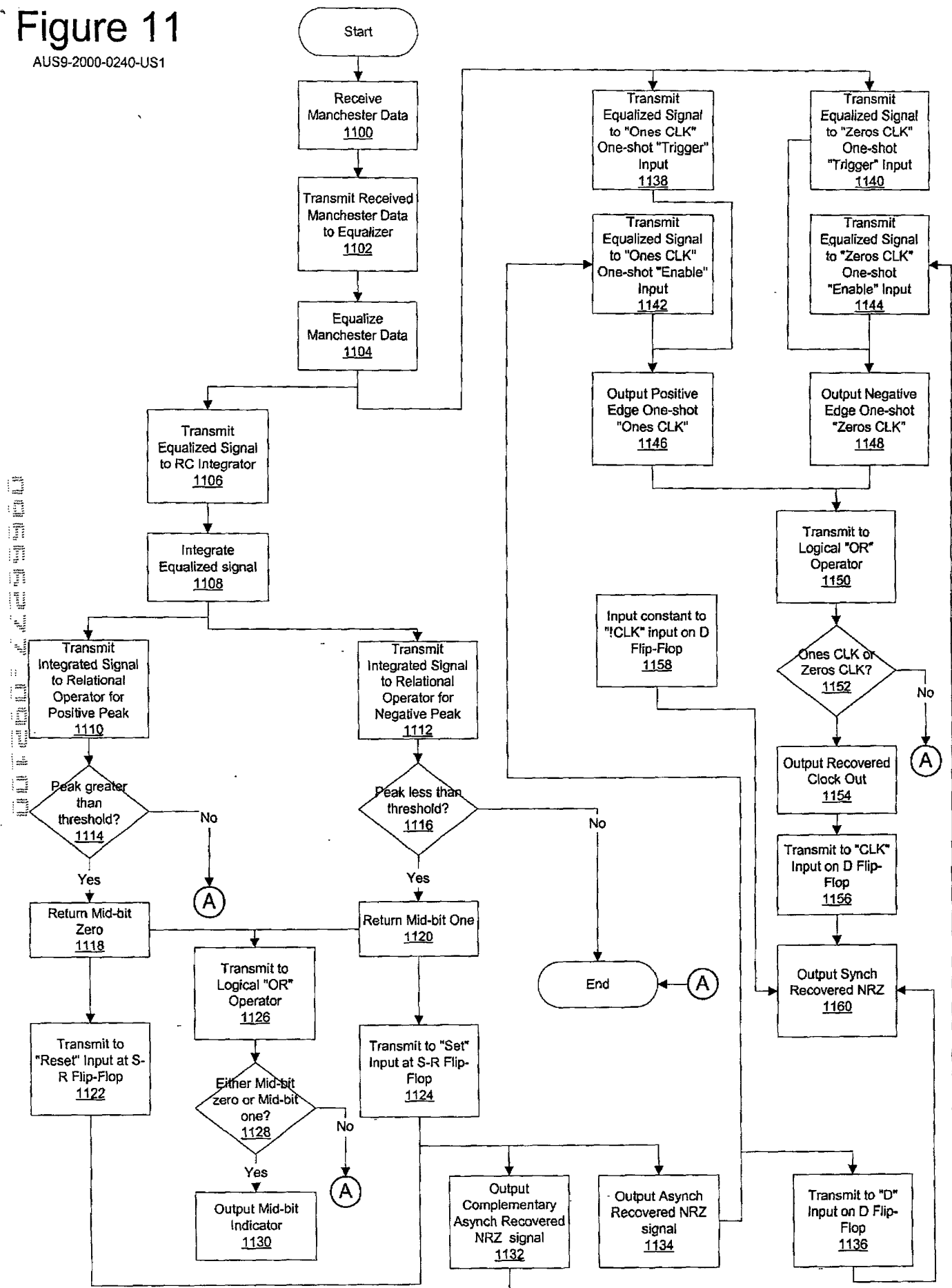


Figure 10

AUS9-2000-0240-US1

AUS9-2000-0240-US1



**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR
PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

**METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CLOCK/DATA RECOVERY FOR
SELF-CLOCKED HIGH SPEED INTERCONNECTS**

the specification of which (check one)

X is attached hereto.

_____ was filed on _____
as Application Serial No. _____
and was amended on _____
(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s):	Priority Claimed
_____	_____ Yes _____ No
(Number)	(Country) (Day/Month/Year)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to the patentability of this application as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

_____	_____	_____
(Application Serial #)	(Filing Date)	(Status)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

John W. Henderson, Jr., Reg. No. 26,907; Thomas E. Tyson, Reg. No. 28,543; James H. Barksdale, Jr., Reg. No. 24,091; Casimer K. Salys, Reg. No. 28,900; Robert M. Carwell, Reg. No. 28,499; Douglas H. Lefevre, Reg. No. 26,193; Jeffrey S. LaBaw, Reg. No. 31,633; David A. Mims, Jr., Reg. No. 32,708; Volel Emile, Reg. No. 39,969; Anthony V. England, Reg. No. 35,129; Leslie A. Van Leeuwen, Reg. No. 42,196; Christopher A. Hughes, Reg. No. 26,914; Edward A. Pennington, Reg. No. 32,588; John E. Hoel, Reg. No. 26,279; Joseph C. Redmond, Jr., Reg. No. 18,753; Marilyn S. Dawkins, Reg. No. 31,140; Mark E. McBurney, Reg. No. 33,114; Duke W. Yee, Reg. No. 34,285; Colin P. Cahoon, Reg. No. 38,836; Stephen R. Loe, Reg. No. 43,757; Stephen J. Walder, Jr., Reg. No. 41,534; Charles D. Stepps, Jr., Reg. No. 45,880; Stephen R. Tkacs, Reg. No. 46,430, and Christopher P. O'Hagan, Reg. No. P-46,966.

Send correspondence to: Duke W. Yee, Carstens, Yee & Cahoon, LLP, P.O. Box 802334, Dallas, Texas 75380 and direct all telephone calls to Duke W. Yee, (972) 367-2001.

FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR: David William Boerstler

INVENTORS SIGNATURE: David William Boerstler DATE: 9/18/2000

RESIDENCE: 16 Wooded Way
Round Rock, Texas 78664

CITIZENSHIP: United States

POST OFFICE ADDRESS: SAME AS ABOVE